

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 044638

60

ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: AF/E:WBCOOTE

APPROVED BY: AF:WESCHAUFLE

S/S-O:LRMACFARLANE

----- 118792

O 250144Z FEB 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 044638

NODIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT LONDON 02892 ACTION SECSTATE 24 FEB 76.

QUOTE

S E C R E T LONDON 02892

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, ZA, MILI

SUBJECT: KAUNDA REQUEST FOR ARMS

1. EMBASSY ODFICER HAS BRIEFED ME ON HIS FEBRUARY 24 CONVERSATION WITH TINY ROWLAND, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF LONRHO. ROWLAND SPENT SEVERAL HOURS LAST WEDNESDAY NIGHT AND THURSDAY MORNING IN DISCUSSION WITH PRESIDENT KAUNDA. THEIR TALK WAS FREQUENTLY INTERRUPTED BY EXCHANGES BETWEEN KAUNDA AND SEVERAL OF HIS SENIOR MILITARY LEADERS, AND AT ONE POINT, KAUNDA RECEIVED A TELEPHONE REPORT OF A BRIEF CUBAN ILCURSION OVER ZAMBIAN FRONTIERS. THE PRESIDENT REMAINED RELAXED THROUGHOUT HIS TIME WITH ROWLAND

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 044638

BUT HE CLEARLY WAS A MAN UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE.

2. KAUNDA TOLD ROWLAND THAT AS PRESIDENT HE MUST NOW BE ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE TO HIS OWN MILITARY LEADERSHIP, TO HIS POLITICAL COLLEAGUES IN ZAMBIA, AND TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES THAT HE IS IN CONTROL OF HIS NATION. HE IS APPREHENSIVE THAT THE MOMENTUM OF EVENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA COULD OVERWHELM HIM. HE MUST SHOW OBSERVERS BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF ZAMBIA THAT HIS WORDS ARE NOT EMPTY, THAT HE IS NOT TO BE INTIMIDATED, AND THAT HE IS NOT A LOSER. KAUNDA THEN ASKED ROWLAND TO ARRANGE FOR ZAMBIA TO OBTAIN SIX TO TEN SAM-7 WEAPONS. HE SAID THE MILITARY ENZECT OF THIS ACQUISITION COULD BE INCONSEQUENTIAL, BUT ITS POLITICAL IMPACT ON HIS COMMANDERS AND HIS NEIGHBORS WOULD BE COMPELLING. KAUNDA NEEDS TO DEMONSTRATE HIS VIGOR, AND THIS IS THE WAY HE WANTS TO DO IT.

3. ROWLAND SAYS HE CAN OBTAIN SAM-7'S FROM EGYPT IF HE HAS TO, AND HE IS PREPARED TO GO TO CAIRO IMMEDIATELY. ROWLAND HAS TOLD US OF KAUNDA'S DESIRE BECAUSE HE THINKS IT IS EQUALLY IMPORTANT THAT THE USG NOW DEMONSTRATE TO KAUNDA OUR OWN VIGOR AND OUR OWN INTEREST IN THE STABILITY OF ZAMBIA. ALTHOUGH SAM-7'S MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO ACQUIRE, A LIMITED NUMBER OF OTHER WEAPONS WITH THE EQUIVALENT POLITICAL IMPACT WOULD FILL THE BILL. THE SOURCE OF THE ARMS IS AT THIS STAGE IMMATERIAL. ROWLAND IS WILLING TO ARRANGE WHATEVER TRANSPORT MIGHT BE NECESSARY.

4. COMMENT: ROWLAND IS IN THE CENTER OF EVENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THERE IS NO REASON TO DOUBT THE ACCURACY OF HIS MESSAGE. I THINK IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE GET BACK TO HIM QUICKLY WITH A RESPONSE. I WOULD LIKE INITIAL DEPARTMENT REACTIONS BY COB FEBRUARY 25.

SPIERS UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, POLITICAL STABILITY, CAT-C, COMBAT OPERATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE044638  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** AF/E:WBCOOTE  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** N760002-0248  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 2  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760214/aaaaaloz.tel  
**Line Count:** 97  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN NODS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 OCT 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by ellisob>; WITHDRAWN <13 OCT 2004 by RowelIE0, REFER TO CIA>; RELEASED <26 OCT 2004 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <26 OCT 2004 by KelleyW0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** LOCK1  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** KAUNDA REQUEST FOR ARMS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MILI, ZA, EG, CU, US, SA, (KAUNDA, KENNETH DAVID)  
**To:** LUSAKA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006